



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 12, 2000

### **S. 1941**

### **Firefighters Investment and Response Enhancement Act of 2000**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
on September 20, 2000*

#### **SUMMARY**

S. 1941 would authorize the director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to administer two new grant programs. Under the first program, the Director of FEMA would award grants to local fire departments for hiring firefighters, training firefighters, acquiring firefighting equipment, and related activities. Under the second program, the Director would award grants to hospitals and other organizations that provide burn treatment, conduct research on burn care, and administer programs on burn prevention.

S. 1941 also would authorize additional appropriations for the Cooperative Fire Assistance program of the Forest Service, a study on the prevalence of hepatitis C among emergency response employees and grants to local governments to minimize the employees' risk of infection, and a study to identify a radio bandwidth for public safety services.

Assuming appropriation of amounts authorized in the act, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1941 would cost \$471 million over the 2001-2005 period. S. 1941 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

S. 1941 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would benefit state and local governments by establishing grant programs for which they may qualify. Any costs incurred by these governments would be the result of complying with grant conditions and would be voluntary. Tribal governments would not be directly affected by S. 1941.

## ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1941 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 450 (community and regional development).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b>					
Authorization Level	131	340	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	23	87	147	150	64

## BASIS OF THE ESTIMATE

S. 1941 would authorize the appropriation of \$471 million over the 2001-2002 period. This total includes the following amounts:

- \$100 million in 2001 and \$300 million in 2002 for grants related to firefighting,
- \$10 million in 2001 and \$20 million in 2002 for programs under the Forest Service,
- \$10 million in 2001 and \$20 million in 2002 for grants related to burn care,
- \$10 million in 2001 for a study of, and grants related to, hepatitis C, and
- \$500,000 in 2001 to identify a radio bandwidth for public safety services.

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the authorized amounts will be provided for each year. Estimates of outlays are based on information from FEMA, the Forest Service, and historical spending patterns for the affected programs and for similar programs.

**PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS:** None.

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 1941 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would benefit some state and local governments. The act would assist state and local governments by authorizing a two-year, \$400 million grant program for qualified fire departments. In addition, the act would authorize \$30 million in grants for burn research and \$10 million for demonstration projects to reduce hepatitis C among emergency service

workers. Qualified state and local governments would be eligible to receive grants under these programs. Any costs incurred by these governments would be the result of complying with grant conditions and would be voluntary. Tribal governments would not be directly affected by S. 1941.

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